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DAREDEVIL
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!
30TH ANNIVERSARY
1962 1992
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN

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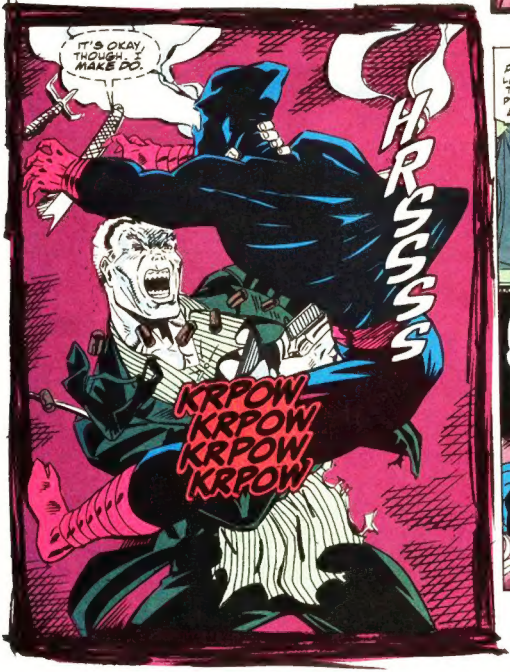
DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT I LIKE MY CHOP SUEY WELL DONE...
THE BLASTED HAND!
BURN HIM, COOK THE SON OF A---
I CAN'T HE'S BLOCKED--
CLINK!
SLITHT
FROM THE SHADOWS WE SERVE AT YOUR HAND, DARK BEAST... PLEASE ACCEPT THIS SMALL--
--SACRIFICE?!
KRNCHK
I LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT... DON'T MIND IF I DO!

TOMBSTONE?!?
JUST LIKE IT SOUNDS, NINJA--

--HARD AS MARBLE, COLD AS ICE!
SNRAP

WHAT I REALLY WANT IS TO MAKE YOUR JOHN SUFFER, BUT HE'S PLAYING POWER GAMES CARVING UP FAT MAN FISK'S KINGDOM!


IT'S OKAY, THOUGH. I MAKE DO.
HRSSSS
KRPOW KRPOW KRPOW KRPOW

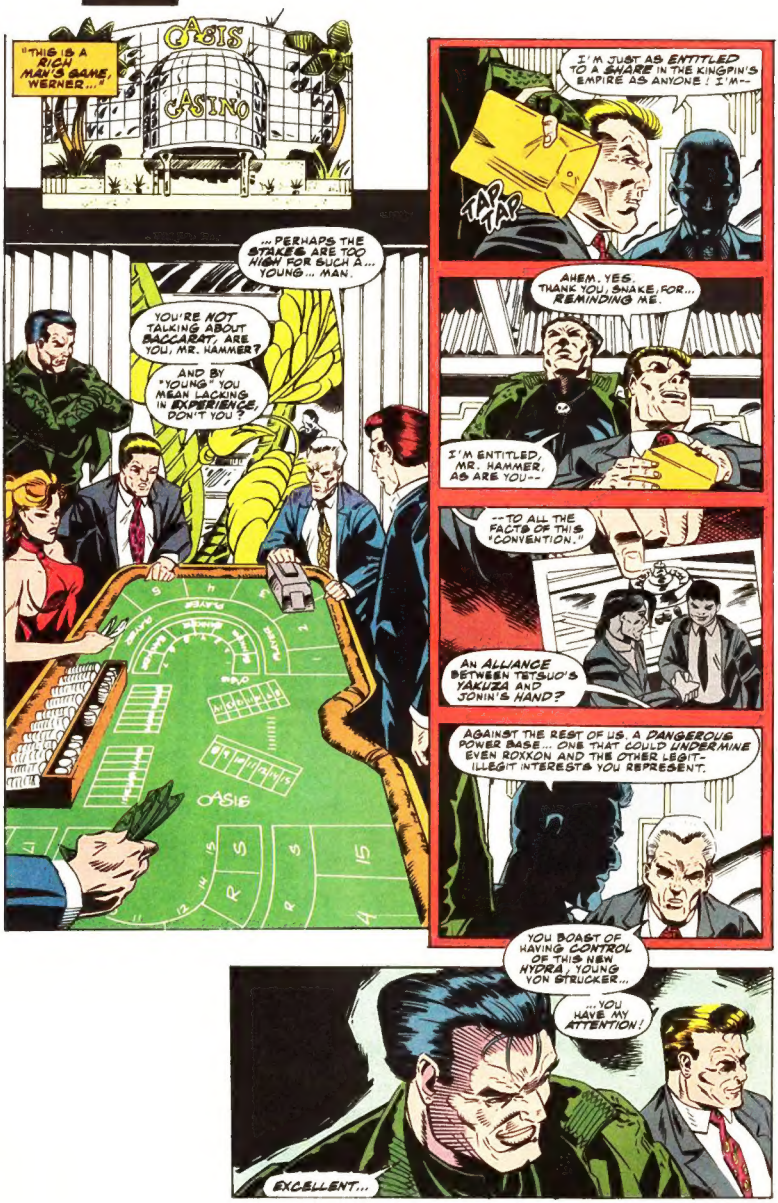
LET THE POLITICIANS LOOK OUT OVER THE CITY AND PRACTICE THEIR DIPLOMACY.
DOWN IN THE TRENCHES, THE SOLDIERS GO FOR THE THROAT.

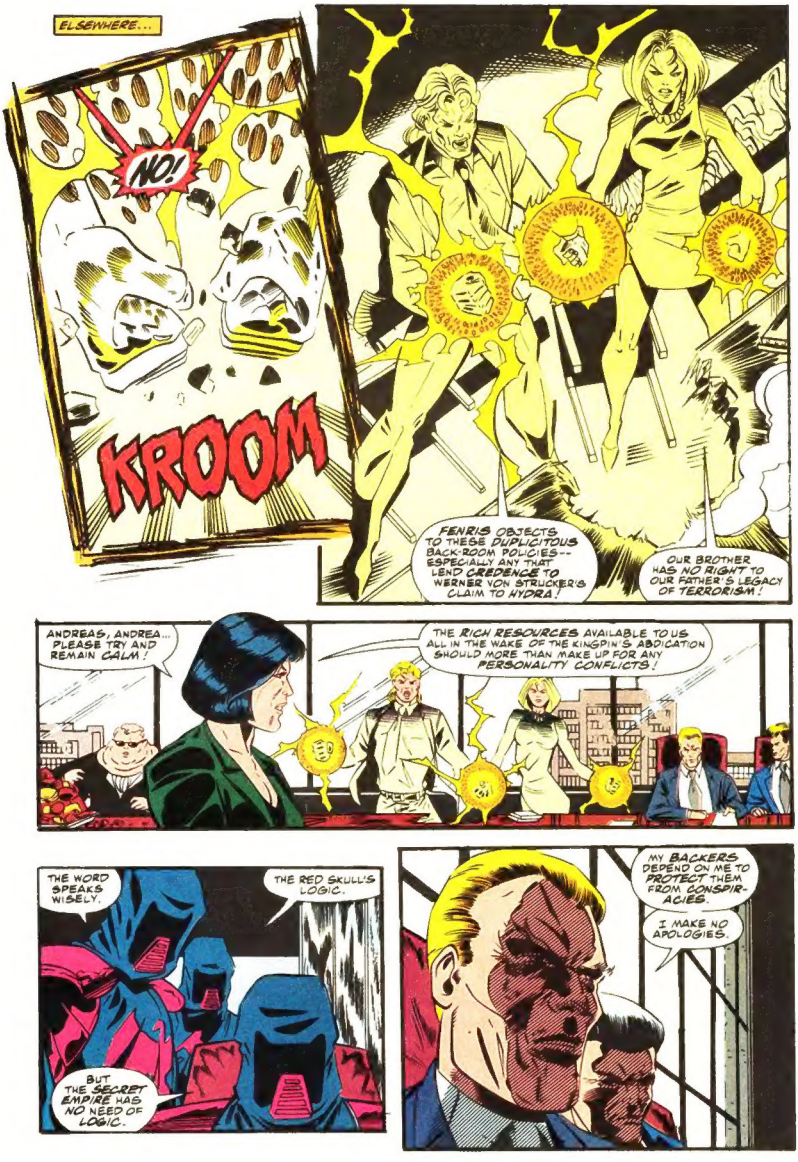
THEY CALL THE FREEMONT STREET AREA "GLITTER GULCH."
MINT
SHOE
GAMBLING
"THEY" BEING THE LOCALS, THE GLITTER HAVING LONG SINCE BEGUN TO FADE IN COMPARISON TO THE NEWER CASINOS ACROSS TOWN.
COME ON, COME ON, BUTCHY-BOY NEEDS A NEW PAIR'A BOOTS!
IT'S SAID IF YOU CAN SEE PAST THE LIGHTS ON THE STRIP, THE ODDS ARE MORE IN YOUR FAVOR HERE.
WHAT HAPPENED TO "BABY NEEDING SHOES"?
WHAT CAN I SAY?
I'M BETTING ON IT.
I'M A GREEDY S.O.B.!
NOT THAT I'M MUCH OF A GAMBLING MAN--THOUGH A PROPENSITY FOR TAKING RISKS HAS EARNED ME A STREET NAME SUGGESTING OTHERWISE.
ROLL DEM BONES!
BUT FINDING A GUIDE TO WHO'S BEEN LEAVING A TRAIL OF DEAD BODIES ACROSS THIS DESERT CITY MEANS PLAYING THE GAME.
--HEY!
GET YOUR HANDS OFF MY--

A CHILDHOOD ACCIDENT STOLE HIS SIGHT, BUT, INCREDIBLY, IT ENDOWED YOUNG MATT MURDOCK WITH RADAR VISION AND HEIGHTENED SENSES. ARMED ONLY WITH HIS ATHLETIC PROWESS, BILLY CLUB, AND INDOMITABLE COURAGE, MATT BATTLES INJUSTICE AS A CRIMSON-CLAD GLADIATOR!
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
DAREDEVIL, THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR!
IT MEANS PLAYING THE GAME WHERE THE STAKES ARE MEASURED IN HUMAN LIVES.
CRAPS.
DEAD MAN'S HAND PT. 5
DEALING FROM THE BOTTOM
WRITER D.G. CHICHESTER
PENCILER SCOTT McDANIEL
INKER BUD LaROSA
LETTERER BILL OAKLEY
COLORIST MAX SCHEELE
EDITOR RALPH MACCHIO
CHIEF TOM DEFALCO

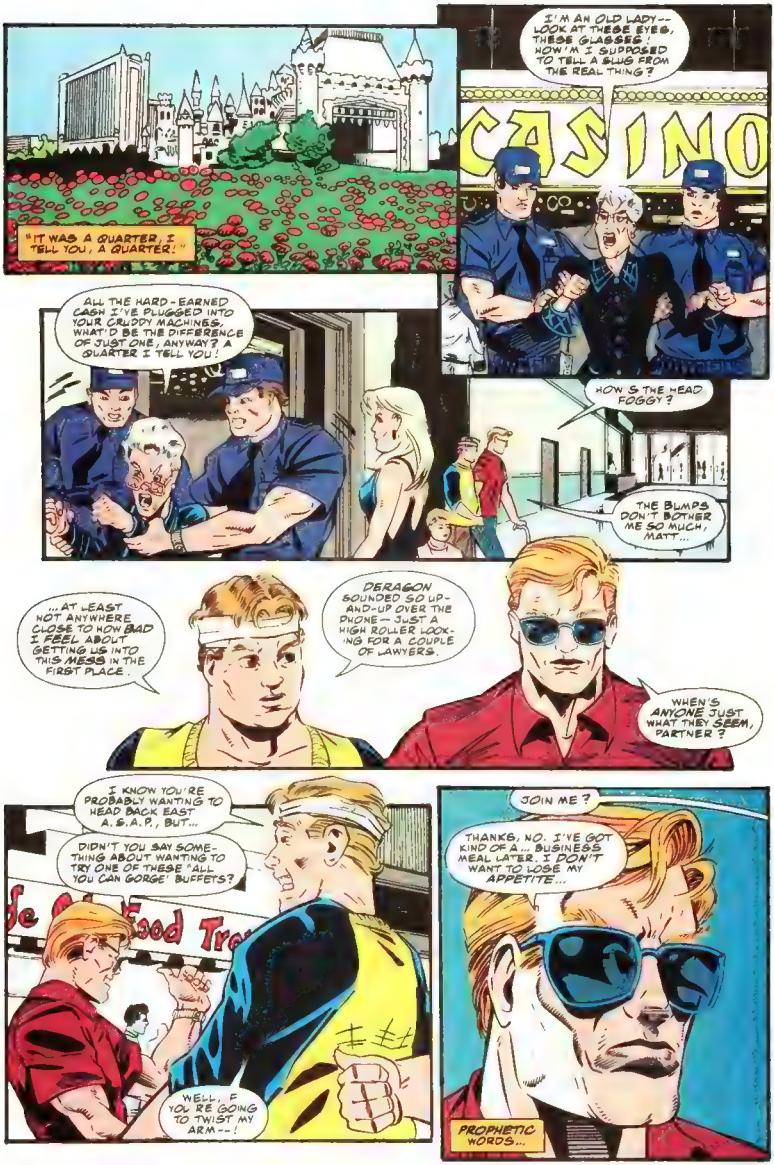
I WAS THINKIN' I'A PUTTIN' IT IN A LITTLE STRONGER TERMS!
DON'T.
WHAT'S A MATTER? WITTLE BARS SENSITIVE?
IN A MANNER OF SPEAKING, YES, ALONG WITH THE OTHER THREE REMAINING PERCEPTIONS SPARED IN THE ACCIDENT THAT TOOK MY SIGHT.
OVERSENSITIZED TO THE POINT WHERE EVEN A MOMENTARY LOSS OF FOCUS LEAVES ME OPEN TO AN ONSLAUGHT OF THE EVERYDAY --
--THE BONE-CHILL OF AIR CONDITIONING, THE RATCHET-CLATTER OF SLOT MACHINES, THE HEADY-BUZZ ODOR OF FREE DRINKS PASSED TO HIGH ROLLERS--
--ANY ONE ENOUGH OF A DISTRACTION TO GIVE BUTCHY-BOY HIS CHEAP SHOT.
ROLLING WITH THE PUNCH MAKES IT HURT A LITTLE LESS--
--MY TONGUE CAN ONLY PICK OUT THE IMPRESSION OF NAILS IN MY TEETH ON THE INSIDE OF MY CHEEK--
--BUT IT DOES NOTHING TO TAKE THE STING OUT OF MY PRIDE.

I HAVE TO GIVE HIM THE BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT, OF COURSE, ON THE ONE-CHANCE THINGS WON'T DEGENERATE INTO VIOLENCE.
OUTTA MY WAY!
IT HAPPENS, SOMETIMES. REALLY.
COMIN' THROUGH, I'M--
BRUTALITY IS NEVER THE ONLY ANSWER, ONLY THE EASIEST.
GOING DOWN.
NICE BOOTS.
SORRY ABOUT THIS, BUTCH, I REALLY AM... BUT I'M TOLD YOU'RE THE MAN TO TALK TO ABOUT VEGAS VICE!
...CONNECT THE DOTS FOR ME!
YOU WANT ALL THAT, BIG MAN, YOU GOT IT! BUT THE NAME TO TALK TO AIN'T MINE... IT'S TERROR! AND WITH HIM, YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN!
VINCE DERAGON'S CREW OF WISEGUYS MURDERED... HI-TECH HEAVY ORDNANCE AROUND TOWN... SMOKING REMAINS OF SHADOW WARRIORS...
EVEN WHEN IT'S NECESSARY, IT'S NOT RIGHT.
EVEN WHEN THEY'VE BROUGHT IT ON THEMSELVES.
UNDER MY FINGERS, BUTCH'S SKIN GROWS COLD - CLAMMY WITH FEAR AS HE VOICES THE NAME.
UNDER A ROCK I'VE GOT TO TURN OVER, SOMETHING LIVING DOWN TO THAT TITLE IS WAITING TO CRAWL OUT...

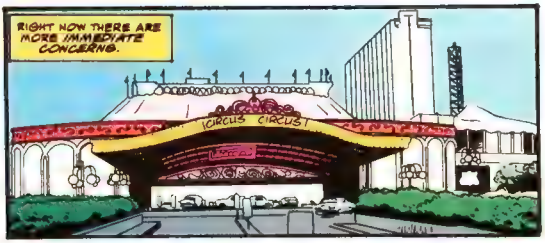

"THIS IS A RICH MAN'S GAME, WERNER..."
OASIS
CASINO
...PERHAPS THE STAKES ARE TOO HIGH FOR SUCH A... YOUNG... MAN.
YOU'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT BACCARAT, ARE YOU, MR. HAMMER?
AND BY "YOUNG" YOU MEAN LACKING IN EXPERIENCE, DON'T YOU?
I'M JUST AS ENTITLED TO A SHARE IN THE KINGPIN'S EMPIRE AS ANYONE! I'M--
TAP TAP
AHEM. YES. THANK YOU, SNAKE, FOR... REMINDING ME.
I'M ENTITLED, MR. HAMMER, AS ARE YOU--
--TO ALL THE FACTS OF THIS "CONVENTION."
AN ALLIANCE BETWEEN TETSUO'S YAKUZA AND JONIN'S HAND?
AGAINST THE REST OF US, A DANGEROUS POWER BASE... ONE THAT COULD UNDERMINE EVEN ROXXON AND THE OTHER LEGIT-ILLEGIT INTERESTS YOU REPRESENT.
YOU BOAST OF HAVING CONTROL OF THIS NEW HYDRA, YOUNG VON STRUCKER...
...YOU HAVE MY ATTENTION!
EXCELLENT...

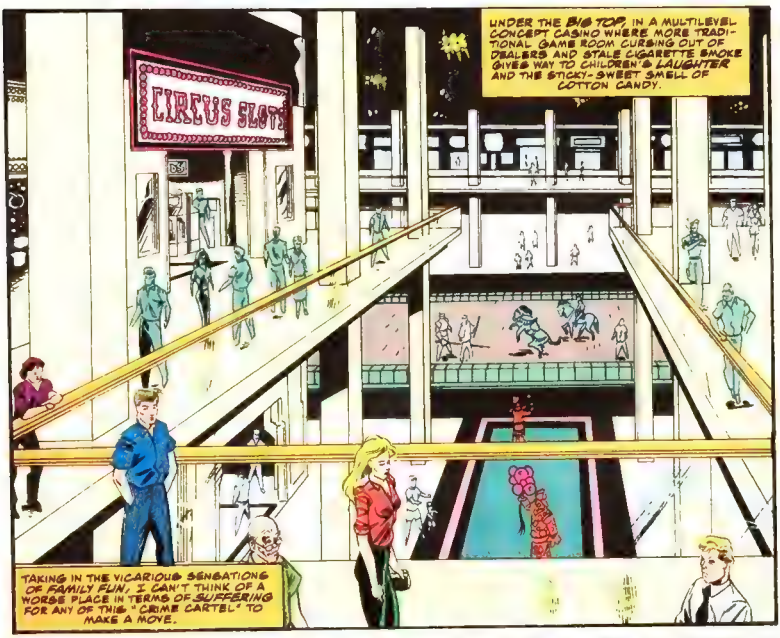

ELSEWHERE...
NO!
KROOM
FENRIS OBJECTS TO THESE DUPLICITOUS BACK-ROOM POLICIES--ESPECIALLY ANY THAT LEND CREDENCE TO WERNER VON STRUCKER'S CLAIM TO HYDRA!
OUR BROTHER HAS NO RIGHT TO OUR FATHER'S LEGACY OF TERRORISM!
ANDREAS, ANDREA... PLEASE TRY AND REMAIN CALM!
THE RICH RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO US ALL IN THE WAKE OF THE KINGPIN'S ABDICATION SHOULD MORE THAN MAKE UP FOR ANY PERSONALITY CONFLICTS!
THE WORD SPEAKS WISELY.
THE RED SKULL'S LOGIC.
BUT THE SECRET EMPIRE HAS NO NEED OF LOGIC.
MY BACKERS DEPEND ON ME TO PROTECT THEM FROM CONSPIRACIES.
I MAKE NO APOLOGIES.

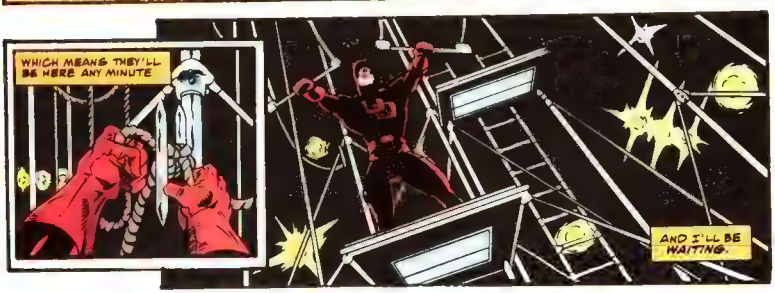
NOR DO WE! THIS SAIJAN HAS DRIVEN US TOGETHER WITH HIS PERSONAL VENDETTA AGAINST THE HAND!
MUTUAL ETHNICITY MAKES TETSUO AND I MUTUAL TARGETS... AND THEREFORE ALLIES!
REAL COZY. I'LL SEE YOU GET ADJOINING GRAVES.
HAMMERHEAD, YOU'RE THE SENIOR REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE MAGGIA HERE--CAN'T YOU TALK SOME SENSE INTO TOMBSTONE?
I'M SICK 'A TALK-TALK-TALKIN', SKIRT, SEE?
ME AN' MY BOYS JUST WANT WHAT WE GOT DUE--SEE?
AND WHAT ABOUT YOU, SLUG?
CAN YOUR NARCOTRAFFICKING BE SATISFIED THROUGH THESE PROCEEDINGS, OR DO YOU ALSO SHARE IN THE GENERAL DISCONTENT?
I'LL ADMIT I'VE GOT MY SHARE OF PROBLEMS...
...LIKE, WHERE'S THE KETCHUP AT?
URRP!

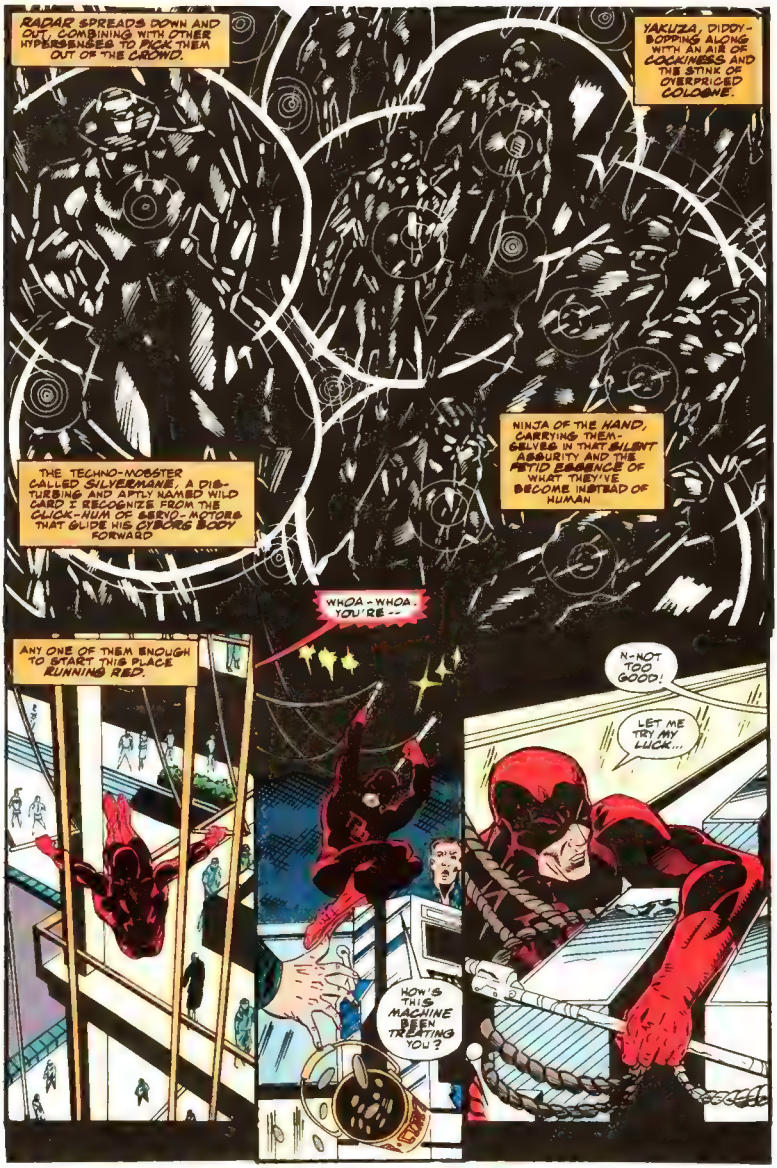

"IT WAS A QUARTER, I TELL YOU, A QUARTER!"
I'M AN OLD LADY--LOOK AT THESE EYES, THESE GLASSES! HOW'M I SUPPOSED TO TELL A SLUG FROM THE REAL THING?
CASINO
ALL THE HARD-EARNED CASH I'VE PLUGGED INTO YOUR CRUDDY MACHINES, WHAT'D BE THE DIFFERENCE OF JUST ONE, ANYWAY? A QUARTER I TELL YOU!
HOW'S THE HEAD FOGGY?
THE BUMPS DON'T BOTHER ME SO MUCH, MATT...
...AT LEAST NOT ANYWHERE CLOSE TO HOW BAD I FEEL ABOUT GETTING US INTO THIS MESS IN THE FIRST PLACE.
DERAGON SOUNDED SO UP-AND-UP OVER THE PHONE--JUST A HIGH ROLLER LOOKING FOR A COUPLE OF LAWYERS.
WHEN'S ANYONE JUST WHAT THEY SEEM, PARTNER?
I KNOW YOU'RE PROBABLY WANTING TO HEAD BACK EAST A.S.A.P., BUT...
DIDN'T YOU SAY SOMETHING ABOUT WANTING TO TRY ONE OF THESE 'ALL YOU CAN GORGE' BUFFETS?
WELL, IF YOU'RE GOING TO TWIST MY ARM--!
JOIN ME?
THANKS, NO. I'VE GOT KIND OF A... BUSINESS MEAL LATER. I DON'T WANT TO LOSE MY APPETITE...
PROPHETIC WORDS...

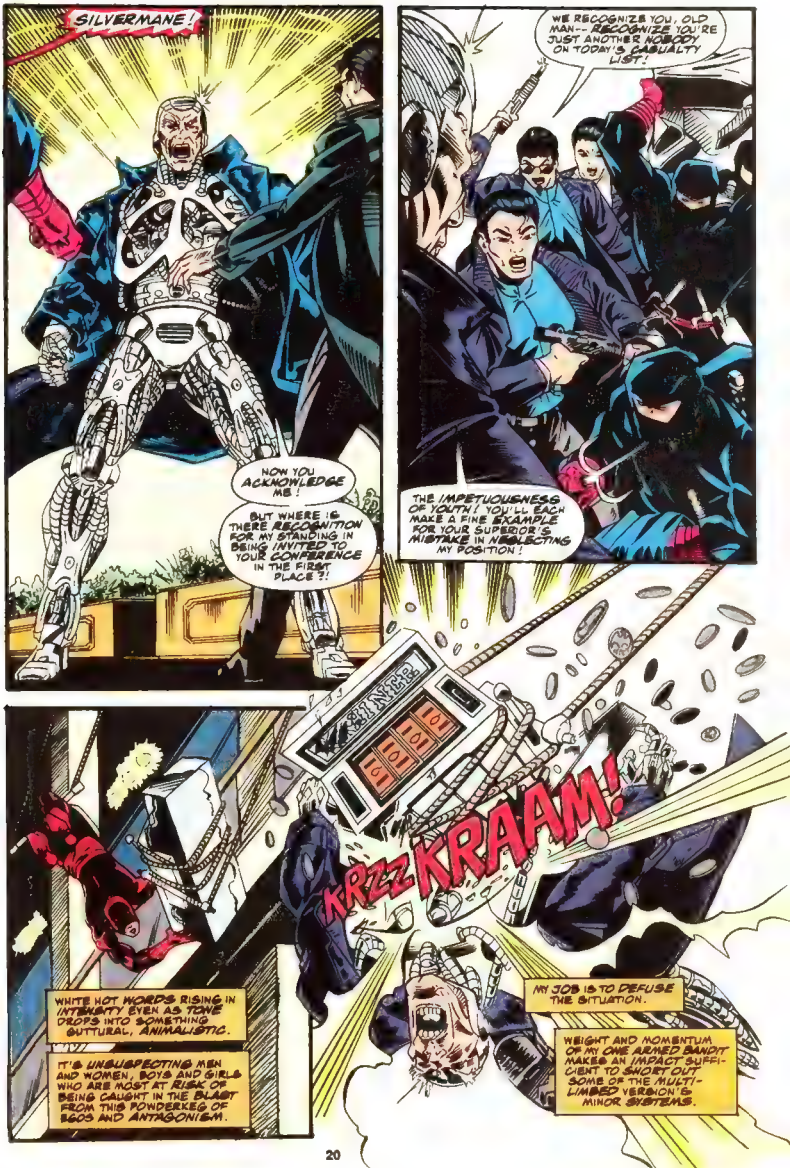
...GIVEN THE UNDERLYING STENCH OF DECAY SURROUNDING MY "DINNER DATE."
I TELL MYSELF IT'S ONLY TERROR'S GNOULISH "ACCOUTERMENT"--
--BODY PARTS HE PLAYS LIKE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS--
--THAT IT'S NOT HIM SMELLING LIKE DEATH.
BUT THERE SEEMS TO BE LITTLE DISTINCTION BETWEEN WHAT HE CARRIES WITH HIM AND WHAT HE IS.
...GO TO SPEAK!
GLITCH
GOLDEN NUGGET
GOLDEN NUGGET
I ASSURE YOU, DAREDEVIL, I HAVE NO PART IN THIS CRIMINAL COMPACT!
NEVERTHELESS, I HAVE BEEN KEEPING AN EAR OUT...
THE WORD I HEAR--OR RATHER, ITS PREVIOUS OWNER DID--SUGGESTS A DEMONSTRATION TOMORROW AT CIRCUS-CIRCUS
A WASTEFUL EXPENDITURE OF VIOLENCE BY MEMBERS OF THE YAKUZA AND HAND, TO RAISE THEIR STANDING IN THE MICROCOSM OF VEGAS AND IN THE EYES OF OTHERS AT THIS CLANDESTINE MEETING.
AND AS MUCH AS I SUSPECT THE EVIL IN WON HE CAME BY HIS COLLECTION, AS MUCH AS I KNOW WHAT HE APPEARS TO BE IS AN OFFENSE TO EVERYTHING I AM...
...I CAN'T DENY THAT PART OF ME SIMPLY DOESN'T WANT TO KNOW ANY MORE.
I APPRECIATE THE FAVOR.
OH NO, GOOD SIR, I DON'T DO FAVORS--I ACCUMULATE DEBTS!
GOOD EVENING.
THERE'S THE THREAT OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS IN TERROR'S ASSESSMENT--
--AND A PROMISE TO MYSELF TO DEAL WITH HIM WHEN THE TIME CALLS FOR IT.


RIGHT NOW THERE ARE MORE IMMEDIATE CONCERNS.
CIRCUS CIRCUS


UNDER THE BIG TOP, IN A MULTILEVEL CONCEPT CASINO WHERE MORE TRADITIONAL GAME ROOM CURSING OUT OF DEALERS AND STALE CIGARETTE SMOKE GIVES WAY TO CHILDREN'S LAUGHTER AND THE STICKY-SWEET SMELL OF COTTON CANDY.
CIRCUS SLOTS
TAKING IN THE VICARIOUS SENSATIONS OF FAMILY FUN, I CAN'T THINK OF A WORSE PLACE IN TERMS OF SUFFERING FOR ANY OF THIS "CRIME CARTEL" TO MAKE A MOVE.


WHICH MEANS THEY'LL BE HERE ANY MINUTE
AND I'LL BE WAITING.

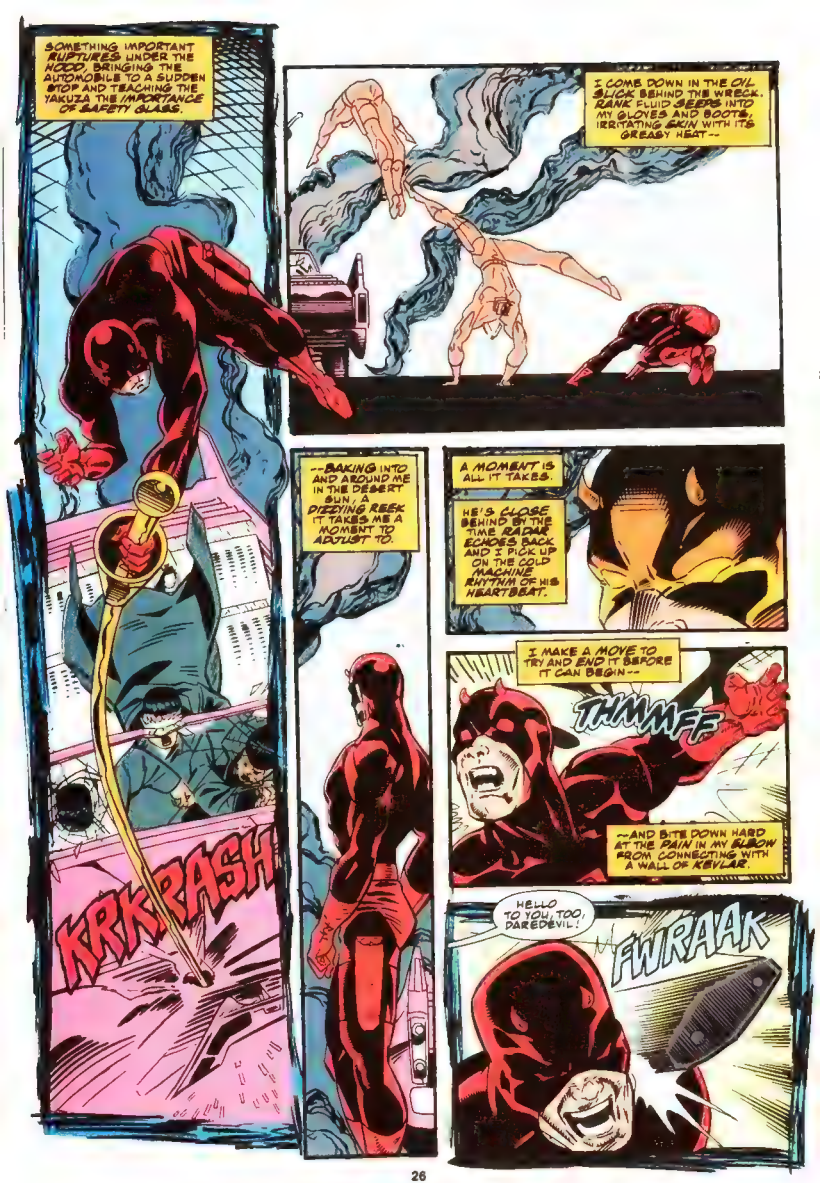

RADAR SPREADS DOWN AND OUT, COMBINING WITH OTHER HYPERSENSES TO PICK THEM OUT OF THE CROWD.
YAKUZA, DIDDY-BOPPING ALONG WITH AN AIR OF COCKINESS AND THE STINK OF OVERPRICED COLOGNE.
THE TECHNO-MOBSTER CALLED SILVERMANE, A DISTURBING AND APTLY NAMED WILD CARD I RECOGNIZE FROM THE CLICK-HUM OF SERVO-MOTORS THAT GUIDE HIS CYBORG BODY FORWARD.
NINJA OF THE HAND, CARRYING THEMSELVES IN THAT SILENT ABSURITY AND THE PETTID ESSENCE OF WHAT THEY'VE BECOME INSTEAD OF HUMAN
WHOA - WHOA. YOU'RE --
ANY ONE OF THEM ENOUGH TO START THIS PLACE RUNNING RED.
N-NOT TOO GOOD!
LET ME TRY MY LUCK...
HOW'S THIS MACHINE BEEN TREATING YOU?
CLICK


SILVERMANE!
NOW YOU ACKNOWLEDGE ME!
BUT WHERE IS THERE RECOGNITION FOR MY STANDING IN BEING INVITED TO YOUR CONFERENCE IN THE FIRST PLACE?!
WE RECOGNIZE YOU, OLD MAN-- RECOGNIZE YOU'RE JUST ANOTHER NOBODY ON TODAY'S CASUALTY LIST!
THE IMPETUOUSNESS OF YOUTH! YOU'LL EACH MAKE A FINE EXAMPLE FOR YOUR SUPERIOR'S MISTAKE IN NEGLECTING MY POSITION!
KRAAM!
KRZZ
WHITE HOT WORDS RISING IN INTENSITY EVEN AS TONE DROPS INTO SOMETHING GUTTURAL, ANIMALISTIC.
IT'S UNSUSPECTING MEN AND WOMEN, BOYS AND GIRLS WHO ARE MOST AT RISK OF BEING CAUGHT IN THE BLAST FROM THIS POWDERKEG OF EGOS AND ANTAGONISM.
MY JOB IS TO DEFUSE THE SITUATION.
WEIGHT AND MOMENTUM OF MY ONE ARMED BANDIT MAKES AN IMPACT SUFFICIENT TO SHORT OUT SOME OF THE MULTI-LIMBED VERMIN'S MINOR SYSTEMS.

SILVERMANE FALLS BACK INTO THE THRONG, SPARKING AND FOUL-MOUTHED.
TETSUO AND JONIN'S FOLLOWERS GIVE HIM A RUN FOR HIS MONEY WITH THEIR OWN EXPLETIVES.
THRAAK
FWOK
CLAIM THE HATED GAIJAN'S HEAD FOR THE BEAST!
TETSUO-SAN'S GONNA HAVE OUR HEADS IF WE FOUL THIS DEAL!
YOU MIND?
WHAT?!?
DIDN'T THINK SO!
REMOVE THYSELF FROM MY STEED, KNAVE!
GIVE IT A REST, LANCELOT! YOU JUST PLAYACT--
--THIS IS WHAT I AM!

A LITTLE ARROGANCE NEVER HURT WHEN TAKING A SHOW HORSE UP AGAINST TRAINED KILLERS ARMED WITH RAZOR SHARP STEEL AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS.
HRSS
HAVING LONG SINCE SHOWN THEMSELVES TO BE FAR REMOVED FROM LIFE, I'VE NO COMPUNCTION ABOUT DEALING WITH THE HAND IN THE HARSHEST POSSIBLE MANNER.
HRSSS
THE STILL BREATHING REQUIRES MORE FINESSE.
JUST REACH IN AND GRAB THE ARMOR, MAN!
YEAH-- THEN HOW'M I SUPPOSED TO SHOOT WITH NO HAND LEFT?!
FROM ALL AROUND, THE BUZZ-WHINE OF CAMERAS FLASHING KODAK MOMENTS--
GO, GO.
--TOURISTS KEEPING HOLD OF THEIR WORLD BY ASSUMING ANOTHER OVER-THE-TOP VEGAS STAGED EVENT.
LIKE HE'S GIVING US ANY OTHER CHOICE!
WHAT THE--?!
ALERT
KRAK
HE'S RIGHT BEHIND!
GOOD! LET'S SEE HOW THE HORSE DOES AGAINST HORSEPOWER...
--TURN 'EM BOTH INTO DOG FOOD!
SCREEE

COME ON, THEN COME ON!
THICK BRIDLE LEATHER BITING DEEP INTO MY PALM AS I TENSE MY GRIP.
SO AM I!
HE'S INTO IT, JACKIE!
NYEEEAAH!
ALMOST THERE...
OIL SOAKED AIR RUSHING OVER ME. HEARTBEATS AHEAD OF THE CAR ENGINE GROWLING LOUDER AND LOUDER IN MY EARS.
...GET OUT OF HERE, MR. ED!
WHAT'S HE DOIN'?!
CRAZY MOTHER--
...THINKS HE'S SIR GALAHAD WITH OUR ENGINE BLOCK!
SHRAAK


SOMETHING IMPORTANT RUPTURES UNDER THE HOOD, BRINGING THE AUTOMOBILE TO A SUDDEN STOP AND TEACHING THE YAKUZA THE IMPORTANCE OF SAFETY GLASS.
KRK RASH
I COME DOWN IN THE OIL SLICK BEHIND THE WRECK. RANK FLUID SEEPS INTO MY GLOVES AND BOOTS, IRRITATING SKIN WITH ITS GREASY HEAT--
--BAKING INTO AND AROUND ME IN THE DESERT SUN. A DIZZYING REEK IT TAKES ME A MOMENT TO ADJUST TO.
A MOMENT IS ALL IT TAKES.
HE'S CLOSE BEHIND BY THE TIME RADAR ECHOES BACK AND I PICK UP ON THE COLD MACHINE RHYTHM OF HIS HEARTBEAT.
I MAKE A MOVE TO TRY AND END IT BEFORE IT CAN BEGIN--
THMMFF
--AND BITE DOWN HARD AT THE PAIN IN MY ELBOW FROM CONNECTING WITH A WALL OF KEVLAR.
HELLO TO YOU, TOO, DAREDEVIL!
FWRAAK

SEEMS TO ME WE'VE GOT SOME UNFINISHED BUSINESS...

TO THE EAST, WHERE A MAN WHO CONSIDERED HIMSELF A KING OF KINGS--
--AND OF NARCOTICS AND MURDER AND IMMORALITY--
--WALKS ALONE IN THE DARKNESS.
HE ENTERTAINS HIMSELF WITH NOTIONS OF OTHER MONARCHS COMING TO VISIT, TO PAY THEIR RESPECTS.
BUT IN HIS STILL SOMETIMES LUCID MOMENTS, WILSON FISK KNOWS THERE IS NO LONGER A STAR TO GUIDE THEM TO HIM.
IT'S FADED FROM THE SKY--
--THE SKY ABOVE HIS CITY HIS CITY--
--FAR ABOVE THIS HOLE IN THE GROUND WHERE PLATITUDES FOOL NO ONE INTO BELIEVING IN THEIR SAFETY OR ANY HOPE AT ALL.
"KILLERS, MUGGERS, AND RAPISTS HAVE THEIR WEAPONS."
NOW YOU HAVE YOURS.
THIS IS NO PLACE FOR ROYALTY, BUT FOR LESSER MEN.
EXIT
WHERE REVOLTING GATEWAYS NICKNAMED "IRON MAIDENS" ARE BUILT TO ACCOMMODATE THE SMALL AND WEAK--
--REMINDING THEM AT EVERY TURN THAT THEIR EXISTENCE IS A TORTURE COMPARED TO THEIR BETTERS WHO BELONG AMONG THE CLOUDS IN SKYSCRAPER TOWERS.
THIS IS NO PLACE FOR ROYALTY.
S'MATTER, FAT MAN--CAN'T FIT?
EXIT
WE'LL HELP YA!
PUT YOU RIGHT THROUGH!
IN PIECES!

N-NNOOO!
AN' HE'S OFF! BETTER THAN O.T.B.!
OOO, SHAKE IT FOR ME, BABY, SHAKE IT!
SOOO-EEE! SOOO-EEE! HERE, PIGGY!
HNNGKK... HNNRK...
WHO YOU GONNA CALL, MAN? GHOST-BUSTERS?
NO, AXEL, LIKE THE POSTER SAYS, MAN -- WE'RE CARRYIN', NOW JELLY-BELLY WANTS HIS, TOO!
CHOOSE YOUR "WEAPON," PORKY!
NOW I'LL HAVE MINE...
SHRIIIP
THRAK
AXEL'S KISSED THE THIRD -- HE'S TOAST! CUT HIM, BENNY!
ZRAAK

THWOK
KWUD
B-BENNY?
KWUD
KWUD
I'M... I'M SORRY, MAN!
KWUD
KWUD
KWUD
KRMPT
HEY! LET LOOSE! LET ME GO THROUGH!
YOU CAN'T--YOU CAN'T HOLD ME HERE FOREVER, MAN!
FWNNK
I DON'T HAVE TO.
MOVE, YOU EFFIN' THING, MOVE! I DIDN'T PAY NO DOLLAR AND A QUARTER FOR THIS KINDA CRAP!
OH, GOD...
I KNIGHT THEE...
NEXT: THE SECRETS OF THE DEAD MAN'S HAND REVEALED! BE HERE IN THIRTY AS HORNHEAD GETS HIS HANDS ON THE "CARDS ON THE TABLE!"

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

Ralph Macchio: Editor
Pat Garrahy: Assistant Editor
c/o Marvel Comics--387 Park Avenue So.
New York, NY 10016

Dear Ralph,

DAREDEVIL is a writer oriented comic. Some books depend on gimmicks (sealed bags, trading cards, multiple covers, etc.), or on the "style-driven" art in order to get good sales. These books focus on the gimmicks and art to the exclusion of coherent stories about characters we actually understand and care about. It is good to see writers like D.G. Chichester take their work seriously and come up with stories like "34 Hours" in issue #304.

In this story we get action, danger, and violence, but real characters, with real feelings shine through. It's unfair to constantly compare writers on this title with Frank Miller, but allow me to say that Mr. Chichester proved that he has his own feel for DD in this story. I might add that the sequence running from pages 17-29 was extremely well done.

Which brings us to the art of Ron Garney and Bud LaRosa. When I saw the opening page I thought to myself, "Please let this be the new regular art team." I am not familiar with Mr. McDaniel and Mr. Ivy, so I can only hope their art will prove to be as good as the art was on this issue. One more thing, let's see a little bit more of Matt Murdock (w/o the horns)...

Mr. Ludwig Stinson
15305 H.H. Highway
Platte City, MO 64079

Let us know what you think of our boys now, Ludwig. Although Chris Ivy couldn't stay for the duration, we think that Bud LaRosa's return worked out very nicely, eh?

Dear Marvel, After reading several of D.G. Chichester's DAREDEVIL issues, I think that it is safe to say that this book has once again undergone a successful change of creative hands. It is obvious that the powers-that-be at Marvel must have a genuine feeling for the character as only top-notch writers will ever find their way to this title. From Miller on, the character of Daredevil has had only a specific feel that has been able to withstand changes in both writers and artists. It is also significant that the book has tended to hire creative teams suited to the personality that Miller gave this title. For example, while I truly enjoy the work of say, John Byrne, I feel that his particular style of storytelling would be ill-suited to the dark, gritty atmosphere found in DAREDEVIL. When I heard that Chichester would be taking over the reins, I was greatly pleased. As much as I liked Ann Nocenti's interpretation of the book for the greater part of her tenure, it was beginning to become fairly obvious that towards the end she had run out of good ideas. The book needed some new blood and Chichester, having worked extensively on such books as HELL-RAISER, is ideally suited to the dark world of Daredevil's New York.

"34 Hours" is a good example of Chichester's ability to capture the spirit of Daredevil. In a series of short stories we see the Daredevil part of Murdock--and only the Daredevil part of Murdock--at work. We see Daredevil as only a typical New Yorker would. The quiet, stalking hero/vigilante is nicely juxtaposed with the verbose courtroom personage of Matt Murdock. By leaving the Murdock side of the man absent, we can more easily see why "regular" people would have such mixed emotions about superheroes. We know that Daredevil is essentially a force for good because we know who Matt Murdock is. We are privy to his thoughts and motives, and thus we generally know what he is trying to accomplish. The man on the street would not know about Murdock. They would only see the elemental force we witnessed in this issue apparently doing good, but not offering an explanation to why he was doing the good. "34 Hours" was an interesting change of pace. While the authorial voice revealed some of Daredevil's thoughts, it was left up to the reader to fill in most of the feelings Daredevil must have felt during this 34-hours of his life. Hey, if this was just a "filler" issue, this book is in very good hands indeed!

Daniel Kelly
RR#2
Spencerville, Ontario
Canada, K0E IX0

...and #1 reason Mr. Chichester was able to pull off a "New York" story so convincingly is...

...he lives here.

Dear Ralph,

Issue #304 showed us a Daredevil I love to see. Not a hero fighting supernatural beings or taking part in world-wide cataclysms, but just a guy doing his bit by tackling street-crime.

DD's dedication and perseverance towards helping the common folk was great to see. Minor touches like having him toss out that rude-and-so-full-of-himself guy who tried to get away with that women's cab, were delightful. Issues like this one don't come along every month, but when they do they are a more than welcome relief.

Once again, kudos to the creative team. Please give Ron Garney and Bud LaRosa on an extra helping of kudos on a visual job well-done!

Mike Aragona
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Canada, H1Z 3M9

One of the reasons the little scenes in DD #304 were so appealing, Mike, is because we each have that little "daredevil" inside us, and we would each like to be able to see guys like the "cab-stealer" get their just desserts!

Dear Ralph,

I just wanted to say that DAREDEVIL is one of my favorite comics and I like the direction that the comic is taking. While it was nice to see Matt go through all of the crisises that he did, it's also nice to see that his life has returned to normal for a while. Also it was nice to see him triumph in a big way over the Kingpin in issue #300.

A question: If issue #304 was an average thirty-four hours, when does Daredevil find the time to be Matt, sleep, or lead a normal life? This must have been a weekend or something. Still it was nice to see that some comics are aware of the plight of the homeless, and it was nice to see a hero who cared (in ref. to the righting of the homeless person's cart). Also, the scene with the paddle tennis was nice because you very rarely see a superhero doing simple things like this anymore.

The scene in the park was breathtaking. I kept thinking how is he going to save everyone, but, as usual, you and the crew came through. I like the way Garney and LaRosa made everything look. It had motion, and it was fluid. I like this look.

Well, that's about it for now, so until Matt gives up law for street performing, make mine DAREDEVIL!!!

Jonathan Pepper
3542 Meier St.
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Jonathan, it seems you are not the only one who was impressed with the various scenes that were rendered. Although Ron Garney does not live in New York City, he does manage to pop in for a visit now and then, and Bud LaRosa is a New York native. So what does all this mean, you may ask? Why it means that these two artistsextraordinairehad all the reference they needed for "34 Hours"--it was all around them!

Item: Some of you may have noticed that the letters page has been missing for the past couple of issues. Now this is not a normal event, and as much as we would have liked to have printed all the great responses to issue #304, we couldn't. Why? Because for the past couple of issues we have been giving you two extra pages of art and story for your buck-twenty-five. Wotta bargain!

Item: Due to a minor screw-up, you will note that this issue of "Dead Man's Hand is not part IV, but part V. NOMAD #5 is now part IV. PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #46 is still part VI, and DAREDEVIL #309 will be part VII. We hope that we've cleared up any confusion.

Next issue: "Dead Man's Hand" continues! The crime convention continues! DD and that skull-guy's fracas continues! And the plight of the Kingpin continues! Wotta saga!!!

Item: Just in case there are still a few folks who are confused as to where they can find the other parts of "Dead Man's Hand," here is a Mighty Marvel Crossover Checklist just to keep the record straight:

part I.....DAREDEVIL #307
part II.....NOMAD #4
part III.....PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #45
part IV.....NOMAD #5
part V.....DAREDEVIL #308
part VI.....PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #46
part VII.....DAREDEVIL #309
part VIII.....NOMAD #6
part IX.....PUNISHER WAR JOURNAL #47